



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Welcome to the Legislative Update for July 20, 2016

This email newsletter is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. **Between legislative sessions of the Arizona State Legislature**, the *Legislative Updates* focuses on news and information. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

(Be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for all the latest information and resources.)

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### FEDERAL OVERVIEW

#### Funding for Aging Programs

House Committee on Appropriations July 14, 2016 press release:

[Appropriations Committee Approves the Fiscal Year 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services Funding Bill](#)

National Council on Aging/NCOA - Aging Program Funding Table (updated July 12)

<https://www.ncoa.org/wp-content/uploads/FY17-July.pdf>

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#### Health Care

On June 22, 2016, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan released a plan for health care reform. Policy Paper [HERE](#)

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#### Updates on Legislation

**H.R.4538**

## **SeniorSafe Act of 2016**

Introduced on 2/11/2016 by Representative Kyrsten Sinema (AZ-9)

This bill provides that: (1) a supervisor, compliance officer, or legal advisor for a covered financial institution who has received training regarding the identification and reporting of the suspected exploitation of a senior citizen (at least 65 years old) shall not be liable for disclosing such exploitation to a covered agency if such individual made the disclosure in good faith and with reasonable care; and (2) a covered financial institution shall not be liable for such a disclosure by such an individual if such individual was employed by the institution at the time of the disclosure and the institution had provided such training.

A "covered financial institution" means a bank, a credit union, an investment adviser, or a broker-dealer. A "covered agency" means each of the federal financial institutions regulatory agencies or a state financial regulatory agency, law enforcement agency, or adult protective services agency.

A covered financial institution may provide such training to each of its supervisors, compliance officers, or legal advisors who: (1) may come into contact with a senior citizen as a regular part of such employee's duties; or (2) may review or approve the financial documents, records, or transactions of a senior citizen in connection with providing him or her financial services

**Latest Action: on 7/6 received in the Senate.**

## **H.R.3700**

## **Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016**

Introduced on 10/7/2015 by Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-3)

The bill amends the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 and other housing laws to modify the Department of Housing and Urban Development's rental assistance (including section 8 low-income voucher and public housing programs, the Federal Housing Administration's requirements for condominium mortgage insurance, and the Department of Agriculture's single family housing guaranteed loan program.

**Latest Action: on 7/19/2016 presented to the President.**

## **H.R.3590**

## **Halt Tax Increases on the Middle Class and Seniors Act**

Introduced on 9/22/2015 by Representative Martha McSally (AZ-2)

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to roll back the increased threshold for determining the amount of the tax deduction for medical expenses. Currently, individual taxpayers under age 65 may only deduct those medical expenses that exceed 10% of their adjusted gross income.

This bill reduces that percentage to 7.5% for all taxpayers.

**Latest Action: On 7/5/2016 placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 508.**

## **H.R.2646**

### **Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2015**

Introduced on 6/4/2015 by Representative Tim Murphy (PA-18)

The protected health information of an individual with a serious mental illness may be disclosed to a caregiver under certain conditions. This bill amends title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to conditionally expand coverage of mental health services. Part D (Voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit Program) of title XVIII (Medicare) of the SSAct is amended to require coverage of antidepressants and antipsychotics. If it will not increase Medicare spending, Medicare's 190-day lifetime limit on inpatient psychiatric hospital services is eliminated. Health information technology activities and incentives are expanded to include certain mental health and substance abuse professionals and facilities.

This bill restricts the lobbying and counseling activities of protection and advocacy systems for individuals with mental illness. These systems must focus on safeguarding the rights of individuals with mental illness to be free from abuse and neglect.

**Latest Action: on 7/14/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.**

## **S.3055**

### **Department of Veterans Affairs Dental Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2016**

Introduced on 6/14/2016 by Senator Richard Burr (NC)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a dental insurance plan to veterans and survivors and dependents of veterans.

**Latest Action: On 7/19/2016 presented to President.**

## **S.2614**

### **Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2016**

Introduced on 3/1/2016 by Representative Charles E. Schumer (NY)

To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with

autism.

**Latest Action: on 7/14/2016 passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.**

**S.603**

**Rural Veterans Travel Enhancement Act of 2015**

Introduced on 2/26/2015 by Senator Jon Tester (MT)

Makes permanent the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs to transport individuals to and from VA facilities in connection with vocational rehabilitation, counseling, examination, treatment, or care. Treats Vet Centers (centers for readjustment counseling and related mental health services for veterans) as VA facilities for purposes of providing payment of actual expenses of travel or allowances for travel to or from a VA facility. Amends the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 to reauthorize through FY2020 a grant program to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in highly rural areas.

**Latest Action: on 6/29/2016 Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearing held.**

**Other Legislation**

**H.R.5694**

**Senior Citizen Protection Act of 2016**

Introduced on 7/8/2016 by Representative Gwen Graham (FL-2)

To direct the Attorney General to establish guidelines for a model elder abuse registry and to provide grants to States for establishing and operating such a registry, and for other purposes.

On 7/8/2016 referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

**H.R.5689**

**Disability Integration Act of 2016**

Introduced on 7/8/2016 by Representative Christopher P. Gibson (NY-19)

To prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes

On 7/8/2016 referred to the House Judiciary.

**H.R.5681**

## **Alzheimer's Beneficiary and Caregiver Support Act**

Introduced on 7/7/2016 by Representative Linda Sanchez, (CA-38)

To require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the efficacy of providing Alzheimer's Disease caregiver support services in delaying or reducing the use of institutional care for Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease or a related dementia.

On 7/7/2016 referred to House Energy and Commerce.

## **H.R.5645**

### **United States-Israel Alzheimer's Disease Cooperation Act**

Introduced on 7/6/2016 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-3)

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a program of grants to support research on the development and commercialization of tools, treatments, and cures for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Supported projects must be joint ventures between U.S. and Israeli non-governmental entities or the U.S. and Israeli governments.

HHS must establish an advisory board to monitor the method by which grants are awarded and to provide performance reviews of actions taken to carry out this bill.

On 7/6/2016 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## **H.R.5558**

### **Highly Rural Veteran Transportation Program Extension Act**

Introduced on 6/22/2016 by Representative Don Young (AK-At-Large)

To extend the authorization of appropriations to the Department of Veteran Affairs for purposes of awarding grants to veterans service organizations for the transportation of highly rural veterans.

On 7/5/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **H.R.5555**

### **Personalize Your Care Act 2.0**

Introduced on 6/22/2016 by Representative Earl Blumenauer (OR-3)

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve end-of-life care and advanced illness management.

On 6/22/2016 referred to the House Ways and Means.

#### **H.R.5506**

**To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease, and for other purposes.**

Introduced on 6/16/2016 by Representative Todd C. Young (IN-9)

On 6/16/2016 referred to the House Ways and Means.

#### **H.R.5496**

**Family and Medical Leave Act Protections for Part-time Workers Act of 2016**

Introduced on 6/16/2016 by Representative Janice D. Schakowsky (IL-9)

To extend protections under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to part-time workers.

On 6/16/2016 referred to the House Administration.

#### **H.R.5267**

**Fighting Medicare Fraud Act of 2016**

Introduced on 5/17/2016 by Representative Lois Frankel (FL-22)

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to expand the permissive exclusion from Federal health programs to include certain individuals with prior interest in sanctioned entities and entities affiliated with sanctioned entities and to provide a criminal penalty for the illegal distribution of Medicare, Medicaid, or CHIP beneficiary identification or provider numbers, and for other purposes.

On 5/20/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

#### **H.Res.801**

**Supporting the goals and ideals of Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month**

Introduced on 6/24/2016 by Representative Maxine Waters (CA-43)

Expresses support for the goals and ideals of Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. Encourages people to: (1) educate themselves about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; (2) advocate for Alzheimer's research, care, and support services; and (3) offer their support to individuals living with dementia, their families, and their caregivers.

On 6/24/2016 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

**S.3137**

**Alzheimer's Beneficiary Caregiver Support Act**

Introduced on 7/7/2016 by Senator Shelley Moore Capito (WV)

To require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the efficacy of providing Alzheimer's Disease caregiver support services in delaying or reducing the use of institutionalized care for Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease or a related dementia.

On 7/7/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**S.3130**

**Independence at Home Act of 2016**

Introduced on 7/6/2016 by Senator Edward J. Markey (MA)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a permanent Independence at Home medical practice program under the Medicare program.

On 7/6/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**S.3113**

**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Act**

Introduced on 6/29/2016 by Senator Amy Klobuchar (MN)

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to make grants to public and nonprofit private health care providers to expand training and support services for families and caregivers of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.

On 6/29/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

**S.3096**

**Removing Barriers to Person-Centered Care Act of 2016**

Introduced on 6/23/2016 by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)

To establish a pilot program promoting an alternative payment model for person-centered care

for Medicare beneficiaries with advanced illnesses.

On 6/23/2016 Special Committee on Aging. Hearing held.

### **S.3090**

#### **Patient Access to Integrated-care, Empowerment, Nephrologists and Treatment Demonstration Act of 2016**

Introduced on 6/23/2016 by Senator Dean Heller (NV)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease, and for other purposes.

On 6/23/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

### **S.3082**

#### **Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act of 2016**

Introduced on 6/22/2016 by Senator Gary C. Peters (MI)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the occurrence of diabetes in Medicare beneficiaries by extending coverage under Medicare for medical nutrition therapy services to such beneficiaries with pre-diabetes or with risk factors for developing type 2 diabetes.

On 6/22/2016 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

### **S.Res.516**

#### **A resolution relative to the death of Pat Summitt, head coach emeritus of the University of Tennessee women's basketball team. (Coach Summitt was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.)**

Introduced on 6/29/2016 by Senator Lamar Alexander (TN)

Text [HERE](#)

6/29/2016 Submitted in the Senate; considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

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#### **Share your opinions with members of Congress!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representative or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.



Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## NEWS & RESOURCES

From **Kaiser Health News**

[\*New Funding Seeks To Help Clinics Swamped By Demand For Dental Care\*](#)

[\*End of Life Care Better for Patients With Cancer, Dementia: Study Finds\*](#)

[\*Few Young Doctors Are Training To Care For U.S. Elderly\*](#)

[\*Younger Seniors Amass More End-of-Life Care Than Oldest Americans, Study Finds\*](#)

See KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>.

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**National Alzheimer's Project Act** updated information can be found at:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

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Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

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From **Governing Daily**

The States and Localities, July 11, 2016

[\*A Refuge for Grandparents Raising Their Grandkids\*](#)

Adam Davis, July 6, 2016

[\*The Growing Imperative for Age-Friendly Communities\*](#)

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From the **Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

AGEnda Aging & Work Blog, Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>

[\*Effective Recruitment Strategies for Older Workers\*](#)

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From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disability/NASUAD**

*Friday Updates, July 15, 2016*

## **Promoting Community Living for Older Adults Who Need Long-term Services and Support**

The Administration for Community Living's (ACL) Center for Policy and Evaluation published the policy brief "Promoting Community Living for Older Adults Who Need Long-term Services and Support." June marked the 17th anniversary of the Olmstead v. LC Supreme Court decision. The Olmstead decision has helped older adults and people with disabilities receive more integrated care. The policy brief outlines opportunities that states have to further improve their home and community-based services (HCBS).

[Click here](#) to view the brief.

*Friday Updates, July 1, 2016*

## **Labor Force Characteristics for Persons with a Disability**

On Tuesday, June 21, 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) issued an Economic News Release on "Persons with a Disability: Labor Force Characteristics," which shows, among other statistics, that the unemployment rate for people with disabilities fell to 10.7% in 2015 from 12.5% in 2014. The data on persons with a disability are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of about 60,000 households that provides statistics on employment and unemployment in the United States. The collection of data on persons with a disability is sponsored by DOL's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP).

[Click here](#) to view the report.

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From the **Administration for Community Living/ACL**

On Wednesday, June 29, 2016, Kathy Greenlee, Administrator of the ACL and Assistant Secretary for Aging, announced she would be leaving at the end of July. For more information:

[http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/2016/2016\\_06\\_29.aspx](http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/2016/2016_06_29.aspx)

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**National Aging and Disability Transportation Center** website: <http://www.nadtc.org/>

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**PBS - Next Avenue blog, Heidi Raschke**

[\*Chorus Lets Those Dealing with Dementia Make New Memories\*](#)

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**Genworth comparison of care costs across the U.S.**

<https://www.genworth.com/about-us/industry-expertise/cost-of-care.html>

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**In case you missed it last time...**

## **Kaiser Health News**

### **June 3, 2016 KHN Morning Briefing**

*Gov't Panel Urges Medicare To Find Ways To Make Hearing Loss Treatment More Affordable* found [HERE](#)

### **May 23, 2016 KHN Morning Briefing**

*Doctors' House Calls Saving Money for Medicare* [HERE](#)

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The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** launched a new Healthy Aging Data Portal. More information [HERE](#)

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From **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services/HHS**

*HHS awards \$156 million to health centers to expand oral health services* [HERE](#)

FY2016 Oral Health Awards [map](#)

Arizona FY16 Oral Health Awards [HERE](#)

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## **Fiscal News**

### **Joint Legislative Budget Committee FY 2017 Appropriations Report – June 2016**

Version with Individual Links:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/17AR/apprpttoc.pdf>

*JLBC – Monthly Fiscal Highlights June 2016* [HERE](#) states “Base year-to-date General Fund revenues are 3.7% above the prior year, and are \$43.3 million above the enacted forecast.”

**Arizona Commerce Authority** – ACA News: July 2016

FY 2016 brief summary of accomplishments [HERE](#)

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## **INFORMATION& RESOURCES:**

### **Vitalyst Health Foundation**

*Treat and Refer: A Community Paramedicine Breakthrough*; more information [HERE](#)

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**ASU Morrison Institute for Public Policy and the Arizona Developmental Disabilities**

## Planning Council

### [Time for a Plan: The Urgency for Families of Older Adults with I/DD](#)

July 2016, Erica S. McFadden, Ph.D.

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News release: [Arizona Legislature Approves Budget for First in Nation Assistive Technology for House, Senate](#)

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[dumpthedrugsaz.org](#)– listing of drop-off locations [HERE](#)

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## Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

### [Toward an Affordable Hearing Aid Option for Adult Arizonans with Limited Income](#)

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Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family – *Governor's Volunteer Service Awards*  
outlined at: <http://volunteer.az.gov/> on <http://goyff.az.gov/>.

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**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference, July 26-27, 2016.** High Country Conference Center in Flagstaff. More information [HERE](#).

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**Arizona Geriatrics Society 2016 Summer Conference** “*Self-Care for the Health Professional: Practicing What We Teach*”

**Friday, July 29** at the Black Canyon Conference Center, Phoenix AZ

More information: <http://www.arizonageriatrics.org/2016-summer-conference>

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**Coming later this fall:**

**Arizona Summit on Volunteerism & Civic Engagement**

**November 3-4, 2016**, ASU West Campus, Glendale

More information: <http://volunteer.az.gov/service-and-volunteerism/summit>

**Walk 4 Hearing, Saturday, November 12, 2016** at **Riverview Park**, 2100 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Mesa AZ. More information [HERE](#)

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**SB1196: silver alert; Alzheimer's disease**

The **Governor's Advisory Council on Aging** believes the recent expansion of the Silver Alert criteria is important to a timely and effective response for missing at-risk individuals younger

than 65 years of age who are diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or (another type of) dementia. The Council on Aging is grateful to Senator Gail Griffin for sponsoring SB1196, for the wide bipartisan support the legislation received in both the Senate and the House of Representatives and to Governor Ducey for his support in signing the bill.

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The **FULL List** web report provided [HERE](#) includes all of the bills tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging during the last session. You can see the final outcome of legislation at the top of the report. (Be sure to click on the bill number for more information including fact sheets, bill versions, amendments, votes, and action taken on the bill.) Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list *does not* represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It *does* mean that the topic is something that could be of interest or have an impact on older Arizonans. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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### **Plan ahead for the next legislative session!**

Resources on the [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) website

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

Learn more at *Frequently Asked Questions* linked [HERE](#).

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### **Share your thoughts at any time!**

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts at any time by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at **602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson** and **in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 ( outside Maricopa County only)** or
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

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Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature

website at the following links if you wish to contact them by phone or email.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

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Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

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If you're interested

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

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You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

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Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer the *Legislative Update* on a monthly basis.

**We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov) and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

**Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

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